

A (1,2) Heterotic String with Gauge Symmetry

David M. Pierce

*Institute of Field Physics
Department of Physics and Astronomy
University of North Carolina
Chapel Hill, NC 27599-3255, USA*

We construct a (1,2) heterotic string with gauge symmetry and determine its particle spectrum. This theory has a local $N=1$ worldsheet supersymmetry for left movers and a local $N=2$ worldsheet supersymmetry for right movers and describes particles in either two or three space-time dimensions. We show that fermionizing the bosons of the compactified $N=1$ space leads to a particle spectrum which has nonabelian gauge symmetry. The fermionic formulation of the theory corresponds to a dimensional reduction of self dual Yang Mills. We also give a worldsheet action for the theory and calculate the one-loop path integral.

I. Introduction

$N=2$ string theories were first studied by Ademollo et al.[1]. They constructed a string which has a local $N=2$ worldsheet supersymmetry and found that the critical dimension was $D=2$. They also found that the only physical state was the ground state. Some years later, it was discovered that the $D=2$ dimensions were complex, implying that the theory actually exists in 4 space-time dimensions [2,3]. As a consequence, the metric of the space is (2,2) or (0,4). More recently, heterotic constructions of $N=2$ theories have been proposed[4,5]. The (0,2) heterotic theory, which is a combination of the $N=0$ bosonic string and the $N=2$ string, contains a number of massless scalars in two or three space-time dimensions. Compactifying on an even self dual lattice results in states which transform in the adjoint representation of a gauge group. Furthermore, the two dimensional version of the theory is equivalent to a dimensional reduction of four-dimensional self dual Yang Mills. When using the same compactification scheme for (1,2) theories, that is theories with $N=1$ local worldsheet supersymmetry for the left movers and $N=2$ worldsheet supersymmetry for the right movers, the physical states are again scalars in 2 or 3 space-time dimensions but they do not have group quantum numbers. This leads us to question whether there are other compactifications with massless particles in a non-trivial representation of a gauge group. This extends the general picture of the gauge symmetries which couple to critical strings.

In this paper we show that the (1,2) heterotic string can support non-abelian gauge symmetry. In sect. II, we discuss the action for the (1,2) theory and derive the classical equations of motion. In sect. III we derive the BRST charges and the anomaly free algebra. In sect. IV, we discuss the physical spectrum of the (1,2) string. In the fermionic case, the states form representations of any 24 dimensional gauge group, and this is discussed in sect. V. In sect. VI, we calculate the partition functions for the two compactifications

of the (1,2) heterotic theory. Finally, in sect. VII, we discuss the correspondence of the fermionic theory to self-dual Yang Mills.

II Action for (1,2) Theory

We would like to construct an action which has local N=1 worldsheet supersymmetry for left movers and local N=2 supersymmetry for the right movers. The conventional N=2 action is given by[1,2,3]:

$$S_1 = -\frac{1}{2\pi} \int d^2\sigma e \{ h^{\alpha\beta} \partial_\alpha z^\gamma \partial_\beta \bar{z}_\gamma - i \bar{\psi}^\gamma \rho^\alpha \bar{\partial}_\alpha \psi_\gamma + A_\alpha \bar{\psi}^\gamma \rho^\alpha \psi_\gamma + \\ (\partial_\alpha z^\gamma - \frac{1}{2} \bar{\chi}_\alpha \psi^\gamma) \bar{\psi}_\gamma \rho^\beta \rho^\alpha \chi_\beta + (\partial_\alpha \bar{z}^\gamma - \frac{1}{2} \bar{\psi}^\gamma \chi_\alpha) \bar{\chi}_\beta \rho^\alpha \rho^\beta \psi_\gamma \} \quad (2.1)$$

where $z^\gamma(\sigma, \tau)$ is a complex bosonic field valued on the worldsheet; $z^\gamma = X^{2\gamma} + iX^{2\gamma+1}$ for $1 \leq \gamma \leq 2$. $\psi^\gamma(\sigma, \tau)$ is a complex fermion on the worldsheet, A_α is a gauge field which is required to make the U(1) symmetry local, and the complex gravitino, χ_α , is required to make the N=2 supersymmetry local. To restrict the N=2 susy to the right movers, we keep only 1 spinor component of the fermions and gravitino. They satisfy $\rho^+ \psi = 0$ and $\rho^- \chi_\alpha = 0$ where ρ^α are the two-dimensional gamma matrices. The N=2 susy transformations are :

$$\delta z = \bar{\epsilon}_r \psi \\ \delta \psi = -i \rho^\alpha \epsilon_r \partial_\alpha z \quad (2.2)$$

The spinor parameter satisfies $\rho^- \epsilon_r = 0$.

One can not take the left movers to be the standard fermionic string[5]. The metric of the N=1 string is (9,1) and the metric for the N=2 string is (2,2) so there is no common subspace. The solution to this problem is found by recognizing that the bosonic fields of the N=2 supergravity multiplet when gauged do not refer to the left or right movers. This means that the two-dimensional graviton field and the Maxwell field of the N=2 supergravity multiplet is common between left and right movers. It is necessary to gauge a U(1) current for the left movers. This current introduces additional ghosts-antighosts with conformal weights (1/2,1/2) and (1,0). This changes the ghost contribution to the anomaly to $-1 - 2 - 15 = -18$ so that the critical dimension is now 12. The new ghost system brings an additional time component so the metric is (2,10)[6].

The N=1 action has the form:

$$S_2 = -\frac{1}{2\pi} \int d^2\sigma e \{ h^{\alpha\beta} \partial_\alpha X^i \partial_\beta X_i + \lambda (\partial_+ X^i)^2 - i \bar{\psi}'^\mu \rho^\alpha \partial_\alpha \psi'_\mu \} \\ S_3 = -\frac{1}{\pi} \int d^2\sigma e \bar{\chi}'_\alpha \rho^\beta \rho^\alpha \psi'^\mu \partial_\beta X_\mu \\ S_4 = -\frac{1}{4\pi} \int d^2\sigma e \bar{\psi}'_\mu \psi'^\mu \rho^\beta \rho^\alpha \chi'_\beta$$

Here, i is an index for the internal space, and μ runs over all space. The N=1 susy is restricted to the left movers by keeping only the left handed fermions; $\rho^- \psi' = 0$ and $\rho^+ \chi' =$

0. N=1 worldsheet supersymmetry for the left movers also requires adding a superpartner for the gauge field, A_α , which is denoted by ψ'' . We also have the restriction $\rho^-\psi'' = 0$. The equations of motion for the U(1) gauge fields lead to the constraints. Altogether, the complete list of local symmetries [1] is sufficient to gauge away all components of $A_\alpha, \chi_\alpha, \chi'_\alpha$, and ψ'' . As is customary in heterotic theories, to eliminate the internal bosons X^i for the right moving N=2 part, we add a lagrange multiplier, $\lambda(\partial_+ X^i)^2$, in the second term[7].

This part of the action is invariant under the local N=1 worldsheet susy given by

$$\begin{aligned}\delta X^\mu &= \bar{\epsilon}\psi'^\mu \\ \delta\psi'^\mu &= -i\rho^\alpha\epsilon(\partial_\alpha X^\mu - \bar{\psi}^\mu\chi'_\alpha) \\ \delta e_\alpha^a &= -2i\bar{\epsilon}\rho^a\chi'_\alpha \\ \delta\chi'_\alpha &= \partial_\alpha\epsilon\end{aligned}\tag{2.4}$$

The spinor parameter, ϵ , satisfies $\rho^+\epsilon = 0$. Here, we have used the usual convention for light cone coordinates, $\sigma^\pm = \sigma^0 \pm \sigma^1$.

The U(1) gauge symmetry is:

$$\begin{aligned}\delta\psi &= i\Sigma(\sigma, \tau)\psi & \delta A_\alpha &= \partial_\alpha\Sigma(\sigma, \tau) \\ \delta\chi_\alpha &= i\Sigma(\sigma, \tau)\chi_\alpha & \delta e_\alpha^a &= \delta Z^\mu = 0\end{aligned}\tag{2.5}$$

In addition to the usual constraints derived from the equations of motion for the metric and gravitino of the N=1 string (Virasoro and superVirasoro currents), there will be constraints following from the equations of motion for the gauge field A_α and its superpartner ψ'' . These additional constraints on the left movers are:

$$J^1(z) = \nu_\mu \partial x^\mu(z) = 0\tag{2.6}$$

where ν is a 12 dimensional vector, and

$$J^2(z) = \nu_\mu \psi^\mu(z) = 0\tag{2.7}$$

In order for the BRST operator to square to zero, it is necessary that ν be nilpotent, i.e. $\nu^2 = 0$. This is also necessary for the anomaly to cancel in the constraint algebra (3.8).

III. Currents and anomaly free algebra

Following the approach used by Fradkin[8], we determine the BRST charge and constraint equations. This procedure has already been worked out for the N=2 string and is shown in[3]. We first give the results for the N=2 string.

The conserved currents are found from the equations of motion for the gauge fields $e_\alpha^a, \chi, \bar{\chi}$, and A_α . We introduce a pair of canonically conjugate ghost oscillators for each

constraint, with statistics opposite to the respective constraint. The conformal weights of the ghosts are given below:

$$\begin{aligned}
L_n : \quad & \{c_m, \bar{c}_n\} = \delta_{m+n}; \quad (2, -1) \\
G_p : \quad & [e_p, \bar{e}_q] = \delta_{p+q}; \quad (3/2, -1/2) \\
\bar{G}_p : \quad & [f_p, \bar{f}_q] = \delta_{p+q}; \quad (3/2, -1/2) \\
T_m : \quad & \{t_m, \bar{t}_n\} = \delta_{m+n}; \quad (1, 0)
\end{aligned} \tag{3.1}$$

The anomaly free currents are:

$$\begin{aligned}
\tilde{L}_m = \{Q, \bar{c}_m\} = & L_m + (m-n)\bar{c}_{m+n}c_{-n} + (1/2m-p)(\bar{e}_{m+p}e_{-p} + \bar{f}_{m+p}f_{-p}) - \\
& n\bar{t}_{m+n}t_{-n} - A\delta_{m,0} \\
\tilde{G}_p = & G_p - 2\bar{c}_{p+q}f_{-q} - 2(p-q)\bar{t}_{p+q}f_{-q} + (1/2m-p)\bar{e}_{m+p}c_{-m} + 1/2\bar{e}_{m+p}t_{-m} : \\
\tilde{\bar{G}} = & \bar{G} - 2\bar{c}_{p+q}e_{-q} + 2(p-q)\bar{t}_{p+q}e_{-q} + (1/2m-p)\bar{f}_{m+p}c_{-m} - 1/2\bar{f}_{m+p}t_{-m} : \\
\tilde{J}_m = & J_m - m\bar{t}_{m+n}c_{-n} + 1/2\bar{e}_{m+p}e_{-p} - 1/2\bar{f}_{m+p}f_{-p} - B\delta_{m,0} :
\end{aligned} \tag{3.2}$$

A and B are normal ordering constants. Note that $f_p = e_{-p}^\dagger$ and $\bar{f}_p = -\bar{e}_{-p}^\dagger$. The constraints following from the action are:

$$\begin{aligned}
L_n = \sum_{r=Z} \bar{\alpha}_{n-r} \cdot \alpha_r - \sum_{s=Z-b} [n/2 + s] \bar{d}_{n-s} \cdot d_s \quad (n \in Z) \\
G_p = i\sqrt{2} \sum_{s \in Z-b} \bar{\alpha}_{p-s} \cdot d_s \quad p \in Z-b \\
\bar{G}_p = -i\sqrt{2} \sum_{r \in Z} \bar{d}_{p-r} \cdot \alpha_r \quad p \in Z+b \\
T_n = -1/2 \sum_{s \in Z} \bar{d}_{n-s} \cdot d_s \quad (n \in Z)
\end{aligned} \tag{3.3}$$

where b is the boundary condition on the worldsheet fermions.

We now determine the BRST charge and associated currents for the left moving N=1 part. The constraints or currents follow from the field equations for the respective gauge fields, e_α^a , χ_α , A_α , and ψ'' . Following the BRST approach, we introduce ghosts which have opposite statistics to every current. The currents following from the action are:

$$\begin{aligned}
L_m = 1/2 \sum : \alpha_n \cdot \alpha_{m+n} : + 1/2 \sum (r + m/2) : b_r \cdot b_{m+r} : \\
G_r = \sum \alpha_{-n} \cdot b_{r+n} \\
J_m^1 = \nu \cdot \alpha_m
\end{aligned}$$

$$J_r^2 = \nu \cdot b_r \quad (3.4)$$

The ghosts (and conformal weights) associated with these currents are:

$$\begin{aligned} L_n : \quad & \{c_m, \bar{c}_n\} = \delta_{m+n}; \quad (2, -1) \\ G_p : \quad & [e_p, \bar{e}_q] = \delta_{p+q}; \quad (3/2, -1/2) \\ J_p^2 : \quad & [f_p, \bar{f}_q] = \delta_{p+q}; \quad (1/2, 1/2) \\ J_m^1 : \quad & \{t_m, \bar{t}_n\} = \delta_{m+n}; \quad (1, 0) \end{aligned} \quad (3.5)$$

The BRST charge is:

$$\begin{aligned} Q = : c_{-n} L_n + e_{-p} G_p + f_{-p} J_p^2 + t_{-m} J_m^1 - \frac{1}{2}(m-n)c_{-m}c_{-n}\bar{c}_{m+n} \\ - 2e_{-p}e_{-q}\bar{c}_{p+q} + mc_{-n}t_{-m}\bar{t}_{n+m} - (n/2+p)c_{-n}f_{-p}\bar{f}_{n+p} + nt_{-n}e_{-p}\bar{f}_{n+p} \\ + f_{-q}e_{-p}\bar{t}_{q+p} + (1/2m-r)c_{-m}e_{-r}\bar{e}_{m+r} - ac_0 - bt_0 - cf_0 : \end{aligned} \quad (3.6)$$

where a, b, and c are normal ordering constants.

The anomaly free currents can now be determined and they are:

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{L}_m = \{Q, \bar{c}_m\} = : L_m + (m-n)\bar{c}_{m+n}c_{-n} + (n/2+p)\bar{f}_{n+p}f_{-p} \\ - m\bar{t}_{n+m}t_{-n} + (1/2m-r)\bar{e}_{m+r}e_{-r} : - a\delta_{m,0} \\ \tilde{J}_n^1 = \{Q, \bar{t}_n\} = : J^1 - n\bar{t}_{n+m}c_{-m} - n\bar{f}_{n+p}e_{-p} : - b\delta_{m,0} \\ \tilde{J}_p^2 = [Q, \bar{f}_p] = : J_p^2 - (n/2+p)\bar{f}_{n+p}c_{-n} + \bar{t}_{p+q}e_{-q} : - c\delta_{p,0} \\ \tilde{G}_p = [Q, \bar{e}_p] = : G_p - 2\bar{c}_{p+q}e_{-q} + n\bar{f}_{n+p}e_{-p} + \bar{t}_{q+p}f_{-q} + (1/2m-p)\bar{e}_{m+p}e_{-m} : \end{aligned} \quad (3.7)$$

These currents satisfy the following algebra:

$$\begin{aligned} [\tilde{L}_n, \tilde{L}_m] &= (n-m)\tilde{L}_{n+m} & [\tilde{L}_m, \tilde{G}_r] &= (1/2m-r)\tilde{G}_{m+r} \\ [\tilde{L}_n, \tilde{J}_m^1] &= -m\tilde{J}_{n+m}^1 & [\tilde{L}_n, \tilde{J}_m^2] &= (\frac{n}{2}+m)\tilde{J}_{n+m}^2 \\ \{\tilde{G}_r, \tilde{G}_s\} &= 2\tilde{L}_{r+s} & [\tilde{J}_n^1, \tilde{G}_p] &= -n\tilde{J}_{n+p}^2 & \{\tilde{J}_n^2, \tilde{G}_p\} &= -\tilde{J}_{n+p}^1 \\ [\tilde{J}^1, \tilde{J}^1] &= 0 & \{\tilde{J}^2, \tilde{J}^2\} &= 0 & [\tilde{J}^1, \tilde{J}^2] &= 0 \end{aligned} \quad (3.8)$$

The nilpotence of the quantum operator Q is necessary and sufficient for the vanishing of the anomaly in the \tilde{K} algebra. It is also true that the vanishing of the anomaly in the \tilde{K} algebra implies the nilpotence of the quantum operator Q. $Q^2 = 0$ is necessary for the consistency of the theory. In practice, it turns out to be simpler to compute the anomaly in \tilde{K} and require it to vanish than the nilpotence of Q.

We now determine the dimension which is necessary for the vanishing of the anomalies in the constraint algebra and the normal ordering constants in (3.7). For d bosonic and d fermionic fields, the normal ordering constants are:
 Neveu-Schwarz (NS) space-time (antiperiodic supercurrent)

$$a = 1/2(1 - d_R/16) \quad (3.9)$$

Ramond (R) space-time (periodic supercurrent)

$$a = 1/2(2/3 - d_R/12 + d_{NS}/24) \quad (3.10)$$

and d_R is the number of internal Ramond fermions and d_{NS} is the number of Neveu-Schwarz fermions. In the particular case when each sector contains fermions of one boundary condition, we see that the critical dimension is 12; $a=1/2$ when there are 12 NS; and $a=0$ for when there are 12 R. When the internal bosons have been fermionized, the normal ordering constant, a , in the NS or R sectors is given by:

$$a = 1/2(d_{NS}/24 - 2d_R/48) \quad (3.11)$$

In the particular case when the fermions in a sector have the same boundary conditions, the critical dimension is $D=28(4 \text{ space-time fermions} + 24 \text{ internal fermions}(8 \times 3))$ $a=1/2$ when all 28 fermions have NS boundary conditions, and $a = -1$ when all 28 fermions have R boundary conditions.

The normal ordering constants, b , and c can be determined from $[\tilde{L}_m, \tilde{J}_n^1]$ and $[\tilde{L}_m, \tilde{J}_p^2]$. Since there are no constant singularity terms in the operator products of $L(z)J(w)$, b and c must be zero.

IV. Physical States for (1,2) heterotic string

The physical spectrum of the $N=2$ heterotic theories are determined by taking the tensor product of the $N=0$ or $N=1$ left moving part with the right moving $N=2$ part. Since all the physical states of the $N=2$ string are massless, only massless states of the left moving $N=1$ part will be physical. In addition, there are further constraints coming from the gauged $U(1)$ current.

For the $N=2$ right movers we define the Fock vacuum by:

$$\begin{aligned} & \bar{\alpha}_n^{R\mu}, \alpha_n^{R\mu}, d_p^{R\mu}, \bar{d}_p^{R\mu}, c_n^R, \bar{c}_n^R, e_p^R, \bar{e}_p^R, f_p^R, \bar{f}_p^R, t_n^R, \bar{t}_n^R |0, k\rangle = 0 \\ & (n \in \mathbb{Z}, p \in n + \phi - 1/2, n > 0, p > 0); 1 \leq \mu \leq 2 \\ & \bar{c}_0^R, |0, k\rangle = \bar{t}_0^R |0, k\rangle = 0 \end{aligned} \quad (4.1)$$

For the left moving $N=1$ part:

$$\alpha_m^{Li}, d_r^{Li}, c_m^L, \bar{c}_m^L, e_q^L, \bar{e}_q^L, f_q^L, \bar{f}_q^L, t_m^L, \bar{t}_m^L |0, k\rangle = 0$$

$$(m \in \mathbb{Z}; q, r \in n + \phi - 1/2, m > 0, q > 0, r > 0); 1 \leq i \leq 4$$

$$\bar{c}_0^L, |0, k \rangle = \bar{t}_0^L |0, k \rangle = 0 \quad (4.2)$$

When p or q is an integer, we have

$$\bar{e}_0^L, |0, k \rangle = \bar{f}_0^L |0, k \rangle = 0$$

$$\bar{e}_0^L, |0, k \rangle = \bar{f}_0^L |0, k \rangle = 0 \quad (4.3)$$

There is a vacuum doubling which arises from the ghost zero modes. This is resolved by requiring all physical states $|\phi \rangle$ to satisfy :

$$\bar{c}_0^R |\phi \rangle = \bar{t}_0^R |\phi \rangle = 0$$

$$\bar{c}_0^L |\phi \rangle = \bar{t}_0^L |\phi \rangle = 0 \quad (4.4)$$

The states of the N=2 string have been analyzed in [9]. If the real bosonic coordinates are required to be periodic when σ changes by 2π , then all the states are space-time bosons. There are two sectors:

$$I. \quad \psi^\mu(\sigma + 2\pi) = \psi^\mu(\sigma), x^\mu(\sigma + 2\pi) = x^\mu(\sigma)$$

$$II. \quad \psi^\mu(\sigma + 2\pi) = -\psi^\mu(\sigma), \quad x^\mu(\sigma + 2\pi) = x^\mu(\sigma) \quad (4.5)$$

The physical states of the theory are required to satisfy $Q|\phi \rangle = 0$ where Q is the BRST charge and where $|\phi \rangle$ is a state which does not satisfy $|\phi \rangle = Q|\chi \rangle$. The only physical state in sector I is the massless scalar ground state $|0, p \rangle$. In sector two, the only physical state is the massless ground state $p_\mu^* \bar{d}_0^\mu |0, p \rangle$. This vacuum also is defined by $\bar{d}_0^\mu |0, p \rangle = 0$. The second sector, which would in the N=1 string be a space-time fermion, is a space-time boson in the N=2 string. BRST invariance requires that the U(1) current annihilate all physical states. So we see that the U(1) current excludes the existence of space-time fermions in the theory.

For the left moving N=1 part, the solutions can be expressed in terms of complex oscillators. By the same reasoning used for the N=2 string, it can be shown that both the NS and R sectors are space-time bosons. When the internal bosons are fermionized, all the physical particles occur in the NS sector.

BRST invariance of states with oscillators acting on the vacuum requires that $\epsilon \cdot k = 0$. This is the usual constraint found in any string theory and amounts to keeping d-2 polarizations. In addition, we have constraints from the U(1) currents. There is the condition of being annihilated by J_m^1 for $m \geq 0$. For $m=0$, we have

$$\tilde{J}_0^1 |k, * \rangle = \nu \cdot k |k, * \rangle = 0 \quad (4.6)$$

which implies that $\nu \cdot k = 0$. For $m > 0$, this constraint restricts states with bosonic oscillators acting on the vacuum to satisfy $\epsilon \cdot \nu = 0$. In addition, BRST invariance requires that

$$J_m^2 |\phi \rangle = 0 \quad (m \geq 0) \quad (4.7)$$

This constraint restricts the possible physical states with fermionic oscillators acting on the vacuum. These states must satisfy $\epsilon \cdot \nu = 0$.

There are two distinct physical spectra depending on the form of the null vector ν . ν can lie entirely in the four dimensional subspace common to left and right movers or ν can have components in the internal dimensions. We first determine the physical spectrum of the (1,2) string for compactifications on an E_8 root lattice. The vector ν can be written as a sum of a space-time and internal part as $\nu = \nu_0 + \nu'$. We also use k to denote the total momentum, p for the space-time momentum, and K for the internal momentum.

I). Consider ν of the form: $(1,0,0,1,0,\dots)$, i.e. $\nu' = 0$. The constraints above require that $\nu \cdot k = 0$. For $k = (k_1, k_2, k_3, k_4)$, the constraint above gives a 2 dimensional momentum in a space with metric (1,1). The mass equation is $m^2 = K^2/2 + N - 1/2$ in the NS sector and $m^2 = K^2/2 + N$ in the R sector. We have the states:

$$\begin{aligned} a). & b_{-1/2}^i |k, 0\rangle \quad 1 \leq i \leq 8 \\ b). & |R\rangle \end{aligned} \tag{4.8}$$

There are 8 states of type (a). In (b), there are also 8 states as can be seen from the partition function. Although the states in (b) are in the Ramond sector, they are not space-time fermions. The constraint in (4.7) allows only a subset of the usual Ramond Vacua and it is a massless scalar. The internal Ramond states form a spinor representation of $SO(8)$. Note that there are not any physical states of the form $|k, K\rangle$ if the internal bosons are compactified on an even self dual lattice. In addition, there are not any states of the form $b_{-1/2}^\mu |k, 0\rangle$. These states are eliminated by the above constraint $k \cdot \nu = 0$ with the additional constraints $\epsilon \cdot \nu$ and $\epsilon \cdot k = 0$. In summary, when the null vector, ν , has only space-time components, the states are massless scalars with momentum in a 2 dimensional subspace with metric (1,1). Furthermore, there will be no group structure in the physical states which have a 16 fold degeneracy.

II). Consider a null vector of the form $\nu = (1, 0, 0, 0, 1, 0, \dots)$. For a state of the form $|k, K\rangle$, the condition $\nu \cdot k = 0$ gives $k_1 = K \cdot \nu'$. Since one of the components of the momentum is constrained, the momentum can be considered to lie in a 3 dimensional subspace with metric (1,2). The 3 dimensional mass is given by $m_3^2 = -(-k_2^2 + k_3^2 + k_4^2) = -(K \cdot \nu')^2$. We have the states:

$$\begin{aligned} a). & |R\rangle \text{ with } k_1 = 0 \\ b). & \epsilon_i b_{-1/2}^i |k, 0\rangle \\ c). & \epsilon_\mu b_{-1/2}^\mu |k, 0\rangle \end{aligned} \tag{4.9}$$

The states in (a) are in the Ramond sector and are massless scalars because of the constraint (4.7). The space-time part is a product of a scalar and a spinor of $SO(2)$. So it is a space-time boson because it does not form a representation of the Lorentz group. The internal part in this case is a product of a scalar and a spinor of $SO(6)$. The constraint (4.7) applied to states in (b) requires $\epsilon \cdot \nu' = 0$. This eliminates one state so there are a total of seven states of type (b). From BRST invariance, $\epsilon \cdot \nu_0 = 0$, and (c) has only 1 solution. For this value of ν , the solution for ϵ is $\epsilon = (0, 1, 1, 1)$. The state in (c) is also a

candidate state for gravity. In summary, in the case when the null vector ν has internal components, the states are again massless scalars, but the momenta is confined to a 3 dimensional subspace with metric (1,2). Furthermore, there is no group structure. The states $\alpha_{-1}^i|0\rangle$, and $|k, K\rangle$ which would have group structure, are not physical.

We now investigate the theory that arises when the internal bosons are fermionized. The conformal field theories of n free bosons and $2n$ free fermions are equivalent in the sense that the conformal properties of their operators and all correlation functions are identical. This is true only when the bosons are compactified [10,11]. The bosons are fermionized according to:

$$:e^{\pm iX^i(z)}:c_{\pm} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(\psi^{2i-1} \pm i\psi^{2i})(z)$$

$$i\partial\phi^i(z) =: \psi^{2i}\psi^{2i-1}:(z) \quad (4.10)$$

where c_{\pm} is a cocycle which is added to ensure that the fermions anticommute. The internal parts of the Virasoro current, supercurrent, and $u(1)$ current are:

$$L(z) = \frac{1}{2}\partial_z\psi^i(z)\psi^i(z)$$

$$T_F(z) = -\frac{i}{12\sqrt{k}}f_{abc}\psi^a\psi^b\psi^c(z)$$

$$J^1(z) = -\frac{i}{2\sqrt{k}}\nu'_af_{abc}:\psi^b\psi^c(z): \quad (4.11)$$

These currents satisfy the same algebra (3.8) as the currents given in (3.5).

As in the (1,2) bosonic theory above, the physical spectrum of the fermionized theory depends on the form of the null vector ν . Since we only fermionized the internal bosons, the space-time components of the $U(1)$ current will be the same as the bosonic case. However, the states of the theory now form representations of a 24-dimensional semi-simple gauge group.

I). Consider $\nu = (1,0,0,1,0,\dots)$. The mass equation is $M^2 = N - 1/2$ in the NS sector and $m^2 = N + 1$ in the R sector. The massless states occur in the NS sector and are given by:

$$b_{-1/2}^i|k\rangle \quad 1 \leq i \leq 24 \quad (4.12)$$

These states could be in the adjoint representations of any 24 dimensional gauge group. Furthermore, as discussed previously, the momentum, k , lies in a 2 dimensional subspace with metric (1,1) of the 4 dimensional space. Other representations of the gauge group are possible if more sectors are added.

II). In the case when the $U(1)$ current contains internal components, we have states of the form

$$\epsilon_{\mu}b_{-1/2}^{\mu}|k, 0\rangle \quad (4.13)$$

This is essentially the same as in the bosonic case above and since there is only one solution for ϵ , this state is a massless scalar which can describe gravity. The internal states have the form

$$\epsilon_i b_{-1/2}^i |k, 0\rangle \quad (4.14)$$

The constraint (4.6) is the requirement that $J_0 = \nu'_i f_{ibc} \sum \psi_{-r}^b \psi_r^c$ annihilate physical states. As before, we have the constraint (4.7). The states in (4.14) must therefore satisfy:

$$\nu'_i f_{ibc} \epsilon_c = 0 \quad \epsilon \cdot \nu' = 0 \quad (4.15)$$

The U(1) current constraint breaks the original symmetry to a subset of the original 24-dimensional group. Also, as in the bosonic case, when the U(1) current contains internal components, the momentum lies in a 3 dimensional (1,2) subspace of the 4 dimensional space. However, in this theory where the internal bosons have been fermionized, there are no 3-dimensional tachyonic states.

V. Gauge symmetry in the fermionic (1,2) heterotic string

For the simple model with fermions in the NS and R sectors, the physical spectrum contains massless scalars in the adjoint representation of a 24 dimensional gauge group. It may be possible to obtain other representations of the gauge group by adding sectors to the theory. This is one nice feature of the (1,2) string which is not present in the (0,2) string. All the gauge degrees of freedom in the (0,2) string are in the adjoint representation. It is also conceivable in the (1,2) theory to obtain states in the $(3,2)_Y$ representation of the gauge group. This is something that was not possible in the N=1 type II string because the internal space was not large enough. It has been widely believed that to obtain $SU(3) \times SU(2) \times U(1)$ in the fundamental representation, $\hat{c} \geq 20/3$ [12]. Our purpose here is to show that in the context of our current understanding of gauge symmetry, the $(3,2)_Y$ representations are possible in the (1,2) string, albeit for massless scalars rather than fermions. In the case of the heterotic (1,2) string, it is possible because the critical dimension is 12 rather than 10 and a larger symmetry group is possible.

Consider the supercurrent in the form:

$$T_F(z) = -\frac{i}{12\sqrt{k}} f_{abc} \psi^a \psi^b \psi^c + \frac{1}{2\sqrt{k}} \psi^a \tilde{J}^a \quad (5.1)$$

and Kac-Moody current:

$$J^a = \tilde{J}^a - \frac{i}{2} f_{abc} \psi^b \psi^c \quad (5.2)$$

which has level $k = \tilde{k} + c_A/2$ and $c_A = 2n$ for $Su(n)$. These currents satisfy a Kac-Moody algebra:

$$[J_m^a, J_n^b] = i f_{abc} J_{m+n}^c + k m \delta_a b \delta m + n \quad (5.3)$$

The generators J_0 give the associated Lie Algebra. The first term of the Kac-Moody current is the generator of the fundamental representation and the second term is a generator of

the adjoint representation. One can determine what groups are possible for a given central charge of the Virasoro algebra[12,13]. For SU(2), we have

$$\hat{c} = 3 - \frac{4}{2 + \tilde{k}} = 1, 5/3, 2, \dots$$

and for SU(3)

$$\hat{c} = 8 - \frac{16}{3 + \tilde{k}} = 8/3, 4, 24/5, \dots \quad (5.4)$$

In addition, with our current understanding, U(1) requires $\hat{c}=1$.

We assume that all the group symmetry comes from the left movers, which must be true in the (1,2) string. To obtain a state in the $(3,2)_Y$ representation requires that $\tilde{k} \geq 1$ for each group. Using the equation (5.4), we see that the contribution of SU(3) with $\tilde{k} \geq 1$ is $\hat{c} \geq 4$ and SU(2) with $\tilde{k} \geq 1$ is $\hat{c} \geq 5/3$. In addition, the U(1) charge can be accommodated with $\hat{c} = 1$. Thus, to obtain the $(3,2)_Y$ representations, we need $\hat{c} \geq 20/3$ or $c \geq 10$. In the (1,2) string we are considering, $\hat{c} = 8$ can be achieved with $\tilde{k} = 1$ for SU(2), and $\tilde{k} = 3$ for SU(3).

VI. One Loop Path Integral for (1,2) string

The 1 loop path integral for the (1,2) string has the form:

$$Z = \int Dh_{\alpha\beta} D\chi D\psi D\psi' D\chi_\alpha D\bar{\chi}_\alpha D\chi'_\alpha DA_\alpha D\psi'' e^{iS} \quad (6.1)$$

where the action, S, is given in (2.3) and (2.4). For the 1-loop calculation, the path integral involves an integration over all metrics of the torus, T^2 . The action is invariant under reparametrizations of the world sheet coordinates(2-d general covariance), Weyl invariance, local 2-d Lorentz transformations, global target space lorentz transformations, local N=2 supersymmetry for right movers, local N=1 supersymmetry for left movers, and U(1) gauge invariance. Because the action is invariant under these symmetries, the path integral is highly divergent; one integrates infinitely many times over gauge equivalent configurations of the Action. Therefore, one must take into account the symmetries of the theory when performing the path integral. Ultimately, the functional integration reduces to an integration over the fundamental region of the moduli spaces associated with gauge inequivalent fields and a trace over the non-zero frequency modes of the oscillators associated with the fields. After considering the moduli parameters associated with the metric (teichmuller parameter), gravitini (supermoduli), and U(1) gauge field (gauge moduli), the path integral reduces to

$$Z = \int_F \frac{d^2\tau}{\tau_2 \text{vol}(ckv)} \int \frac{d^2\hat{A}\tau_2}{\text{vol}(cks)} (czero)(tzero) \int d^4p e^{-2\pi p^2 \tau_2} g t r' g' q^{L_0} \bar{q}^{\bar{L}_0} \quad (6.2)$$

where the prime denotes the omission of the zero frequency modes, $q = e^{2\pi i\tau}$, $\tau = \tau_1 + i\tau_2$ is the complex metric moduli parameter, and g is a twist factor. In the sectors where

no A-field modulus is present, $g=1$ for time boundary conditions which are periodic on bosons and antiperiodic on fermions, and $g = (-1)^F$ for time boundary conditions which are antiperiodic on bosons and periodic on fermions. Here, F is the number operator for the relevant oscillator. When there is an A-field modulus, g contains an additional factor of w^{J_0} where $w = e^{i\tau_2 A_z}$ and J_0 is the generator of $U(1)$ transformations. g' contains the part of the $U(1)$ current without momentum. The volume of the conformal killing vectors, $\text{vol}(\text{ckv})$, is τ_2^2 ; the volume of the conformal killing scalars, $\text{vol}(\text{cks})$, is $4\pi^2\tau_2$; the c zero modes contribute a factor of τ_2^2 ; and the $U(1)$ ghost zero modes t , contribute a factor of τ_2^2 . The analysis here parallels that of the calculation of the 1-loop amplitude for $N=2$ strings given in [9].

Each contribution to the trace is of the form:

$$\Pi_{n=Z-r}^\infty (1 \pm wq^n)^{\pm 1} \quad (6.3)$$

The powers ± 1 occur for fermions and bosons respectively, the factor w is absent if there is no gauge-field modulus, and the relative sign depends on time boundary conditions: $+$ for antiperiodic fermions or periodic bosons and $-$ for periodic fermions or antiperiodic bosons. These can also be expressed in terms of Jacobi theta functions (see appendix). The contribution from the right moving $N=2$ part is 1 regardless of the spin structure. The space-time part and the ghosts of the left moving part also cancel for all spin structures (Note, however, that the normal ordering constant does depend on the boundary conditions of the space-time fields).

The Wilson loop (or g factors) for the left movers shifts the momentum $k^\mu \rightarrow k^\mu + \frac{A_z \tau_2}{4\pi\tau} \nu^\mu$. Including the wilson loop would mean that one integrates over the real momenta an infinite number of times. It also includes complex momentum. We restrict the integration by identifying the momentum with its spectral flow, i.e., we drop the wilson loop for the left movers. The integration over the wilson loop for the right moving $N=2$ part is equivalent to summing over all fermionic boundary conditions. In this case, we restrict the integration to include each boundary condition only once by choosing a fundamental region of the gauge moduli space. The volume of this moduli space is given by $\int d^2 \hat{A} = \frac{4\pi^2}{\tau_2}$. Considering all these factors, the partition function becomes:

$$Z = \frac{1}{4} \int_F \frac{d^2 \tau}{\tau_2^2} \sum_{proj} \text{Tr}' q^{L_0} (-1)^{F_p} \quad (6.4)$$

The trace over the nonzero frequency modes of the oscillators can be written as:

$$\text{Tr}' q^{L_0} (-1)^{F_p} = q^{-a_p} \text{Tr}' q^{N_{st}} \text{Tr}' q^{N_g} \text{Tr}' q^{N_{int}} \sum q^{1/2 K^2} (-1)^{F_p} \quad (6.5)$$

Here we have used the notation that N_{st} is the space-time part of \tilde{L}_0 , N_g is the ghost part, and N_{int} is the internal part.

We consider two sectors: one sector has NS boundary conditions for all 12 left moving fermions and another sector has R boundary conditions for all left moving fermions. We then add in projections in order to include all boundary conditions for both directions on the torus. The integration over the gauge moduli parameters is equivalent to summing over all boundary conditions for the right moving fermions ($N=2$ part).

NS sector:(a=1/2)

$$A(-, -) = \eta(-, -)q^{-1/2}Tr'q^{N_b} \sum q^{1/2K^2} Tr'q^{N_\alpha} = \eta(-, -)\frac{\theta_3^4}{\eta^{12}} \sum q^{1/2K^2}$$

$$A(-, +) = \eta(-, +)q^{-1/2}Tr'q^{N_b}Tr'q^{N_\alpha}(-1)^F \sum q^{1/2K^2} = \eta(-, +)\frac{\theta_4^4}{\eta^{12}} \sum q^{1/2K^2}$$

R sector(a=0)

$$A(+, -) = \eta(+, -)Tr'q^{N_d}Tr'q^{N_\alpha} \sum q^{1/2K^2} = \eta(+, +)2^{-8/2}\frac{\theta_2^4}{\eta^{12}} \sum q^{1/2K^2}$$

$$A(+, +) = \eta(+, +)Trq^{N_d}(-1)^F Tr'q^{N_\alpha} \sum q^{1/2K^2} = 0 \quad (6.6)$$

The constants η are determined by requiring the partition function to be modular invariant. Only the relative phases of the projections are relevant, so we can set $\eta(-, -) = 1$. We then determine that $\eta(-, +) = -1$ and $\eta(+, -) = -2^4$. Compactifying the internal bosons on the E_8 lattice, we find that the partition function is

$$Z = \frac{1}{4} \int_F \frac{d^2\tau}{\tau_2^2} \frac{1}{2} \frac{[\theta_3^8 + \theta_4^8 + \theta_2^8]}{\eta^8} [(\frac{\theta_3}{\eta})^4 - (\frac{\theta_4}{\eta})^4 - (\frac{\theta_2}{\eta})^4] \quad (6.7)$$

This one-loop 0 point amplitude is modular invariant, i.e. it does not change under changes in the metric moduli parameter $\tau' = \tau + 1$, and $\tau' = -\frac{1}{\tau}$. It is also 0 because of the Hardy Ramanujan identity.

We now consider the same model but now we fermionize the internal bosons. We still have two sectors: one sector with NS boundary conditions on all 28 left moving fermions and another sector with R boundary conditions for all 28 left moving fermions. We include all spin structures on the torus by adding in projections. The space-time parts are the same as before.

NS sector:(for 24 internal fermions+ 4 from space-time, a=1/2)

$$A(-, -) = \eta(-, -)q^{-1/2}Tr'q^{N_b} = \eta(-, -)\frac{\theta_3^{12}}{\eta^{12}}$$

$$A(-, +) = \eta(-, +)q^{-1/2}Tr'q^{N_b}(-1)^F = \eta(-, +)\frac{\theta_4^{12}}{\eta^{12}}$$

R sector(a= -1)

$$A(+, -) = \eta(+, -)qTr'q^{N_d} = \eta(+, -)2^{-24/2}\frac{\theta_2^{12}}{\eta^{12}}$$

$$A(+, +) = \eta(+, +)qTrq^{N_d}(-1)^F = 0 \quad (6.8)$$

Here, N_b is the part of \tilde{L}_0 containing fermions with NS boundary conditions, and N_d is the part containing fermions with Ramond boundary conditions. Setting $\eta(-, -) = 1$,

modular invariance requires $\eta(-, +) = -1$, and $\eta(+, -) = -2^{12}$. Finally, the partition function is:

$$Z = \frac{1}{4} \int_F \frac{d^2 \tau}{\tau_2^2} [(\frac{\theta_3}{\eta})^{12} - (\frac{\theta_4}{\eta})^{12} - (\frac{\theta_2}{\eta})^{12}] \quad (6.9)$$

VII. Effective field theory

We can determine an effective field theory for the (1,2) string theory. This method involves calculating scattering amplitudes for the string theory and then determining an action with space-time fields which reproduces the string scattering amplitudes. We concentrate on the two dimensional case where the only coupling involves the massless scalars.

The vertex operator for the massless scalars in the adjoint representation of the gauge group corresponding to the state, $b_{-1/2}^a |k\rangle$, is : $V^a = V_L^a V_R$ where

$$V_L^a = \{k \cdot b(z) b^a(z) - \frac{i}{2} f_{abc} b^b(z) b^c(z)\} \exp\{ik \cdot X_L(z)\} \quad (7.1a)$$

$$V_R = \{ik \cdot \bar{\partial} \bar{X}_R(\bar{z}) - i\bar{k} \cdot \bar{\partial} X_R(\bar{z}) - (k \cdot \bar{\psi}_R(\bar{z}))(\bar{k} \cdot \psi_R(\bar{z}))\} \exp\{ik \cdot \bar{X}_R(\bar{z}) + i\bar{k} \cdot X_R(\bar{z})\} \quad (7.1b)$$

The left moving part (7.1a) is expressed in terms of real momentum and the right moving part (7.1b) is expressed in terms of complex momentum. In the two dimensional case, the complex momentum of the physical states reduces to 2 real components. The three point scattering amplitude for these massless scalars is:

$$A_3 = \langle -k_1 | b_{1/2}^a V^b(k_2; z, \bar{z} = 1) b_{-1/2}^c | k_3 \rangle = (k_1 \cdot \bar{k}_2 - \bar{k}_1 \cdot k_2) i f_{abc} (2\pi)^4 \quad (7.2)$$

An effective action which reproduces this three point coupling is:

$$S = \int d^4 x (1/2 \partial_i \phi^a \bar{\partial}_i \phi^a + \frac{1}{3!} f^{abc} \phi^a \partial_i \phi^b \bar{\partial}_i \phi^c + O(\phi^4)) \quad (7.3)$$

This effective action will give rise to higher n point scattering amplitudes. The scattering amplitudes for the massless scalars of the (1,2) string are the same as that for the (0,2) string[5]. Since the higher n point amplitudes derived from the string theory are zero, one must add higher order terms in the action so that the total contribution to the four-point coupling vanishes. The effective action which reproduces the scattering amplitudes of the two-dimensional theory essentially describes a scalar theory of self-dual Yang Mills. This is given by [5]:

$$S = \int k^{(0)} \wedge Tr(1/2 \bar{\partial} \phi \wedge \partial \phi + \sum_{n=3}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n!} \bar{\partial} \phi \wedge [\dots [\partial \phi, \phi], \phi] \dots) \quad (7.4)$$

$k^{(0)}$ is the kahler form, $k^{(0)} = i(dx^1 \wedge d\bar{x}^1 - dx^2 \wedge d\bar{x}^2)$. The action for self-dual Yang Mills in terms of scalars is derived by solving the self dual equation $F_{\mu\nu} = \epsilon_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} F^{\rho\sigma}$. The gauge

field can be written in terms of scalar fields, $A_\mu = i\partial_\mu\Omega^{-1}\Omega$ and $\Omega = \exp[\sum_a \phi^a t^a]$, where t^a is a hermitian generator of the gauge group, and ϕ^a is a scalar field with the adjoint index. Substituting these expressions for the gauge field into the self-duality equation results in a non-linear differential equation for the scalar fields. This equation can be derived from the action (7.4).

In the 3 dimensional case, the gauge degrees of freedom couple to gravity. This will modify the two dimensional theory and the theory is no longer described by self dual Yang Mills.

VIII. Conclusions

The heterotic N=2 theories have a finite number of physical particles in the spectrum, all of which are massless, and occur in two or three space-time dimensions. This paper concerned the (1,2) heterotic string, which is constructed with a combination of a string with local N=1 worldsheet supersymmetry for the left movers and a local N=2 worldsheet supersymmetry for the right movers. An action describing this theory is given in sect. II. This theory exists in either two or three space-time dimensions depending on the gauged U(1) left moving current. When the vector ν describing the U(1) current has no internal components, the physical spectrum consists of a number of massless scalars propagating in two dimensional space-time with metric (1,1). When the vector ν has internal components, the spectrum consists of a number of scalars, some massless and some tachyonic in 3 space-time dimensions with signature (1,2). In this case, there is one state that is a candidate to describe gravity. The (1,2) string compactified on an even self-dual lattice has massless states but no gauge symmetry. Fermionizing the internal bosons and choosing a supercurrent trilinear in fermions allows for non-abelian gauge symmetry. The physical spectrum again depends on whether the vector ν has internal components. When the vector does not have internal components, the physical spectrum consists of a number of massless scalars which form a representation of any 24-dimensional semi simple gauge group. Unlike the (0,2) string, the (1,2) string can accommodate fundamental representations of a gauge group. The internal space is also large enough to accommodate particles in the fundamental representations of SU(3)xSU(2)xU(1). This two-dimensional version has only gauge degrees of freedom, and its effective action is equivalent to self-dual Yang Mills. Thus, these states quantize self-dual Yang Mills. When the vector ν has an internal component, the physical spectrum consists of a number of scalars in 3 space-time dimensions. The group symmetry in this case is broken to a subset of the original 24-dimensional gauge group. In this three dimensional theory, the coupling of the gauge fields to gravity modifies the effective action and the theory is no longer described by self-dual Yang Mills. The partition function is calculated for a (1,2) theory compactified on an E_8 lattice and for a theory where the internal bosons are fermionized. By summing over spin structures of the left moving fermions and choosing suitable projections, we derived a modular invariant partition function.

Appendix

Modular invariance of the partition function is more easily seen if the traces of the fields are expressed in terms of Jacobi theta functions.

$$Tr'q \sum \alpha_{-n}^i \alpha_n^i = f(q)^{-d} = q^{\frac{d}{24}} \eta^{-d} \quad (A.1)$$

$$Tr'q \sum r b_{-r} b_r = \left(\frac{\theta_3}{\eta}\right) q^{\frac{d_b}{48}} \quad (A.2)$$

$$Tr'q \sum r b_{-r} b_r (-1)^F = \left(\frac{\theta_4}{\eta}\right) q^{\frac{d_b}{48}} \quad (A.3)$$

$$Tr'q \sum r d_{-r} d_r (-1)^F = (2^{-d/2}) \left(\frac{\theta_2}{\eta}\right) q^{\frac{-2d_d}{48}} \quad (A.4)$$

E_8 root lattice:

$$\sum q^{1/2 p_i^2} = 1/2(\theta_3^8 + \theta_4^8 + \theta_2^8) \quad (A.5)$$

The Jacobi theta functions are given by:

$$\begin{aligned} \theta_2 &= \vartheta \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} (0|\tau) \\ \theta_3 &= \vartheta \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} (0|\tau) \\ \theta_4 &= \vartheta \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} (0|\tau) \end{aligned} \quad (A.6)$$

where

$$\vartheta \begin{bmatrix} \rho \\ \mu \end{bmatrix} (\nu|\tau) = \sum_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} e^{i\pi\tau(n+\rho/2)^2} e^{i2\pi(n+\rho/2)(\nu+\mu/2)} e^{i\pi\rho\mu/2} \quad (A.7)$$

$$\eta(q) = q^{1/24} \prod_{n=1}^{\infty} (1 - q^n) \quad (A.8)$$

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